

JOHN H. MURDOCK



John Heber Murdock, son of Joseph Stacy and Eliza Clark Murdock, was born in Church Pastures, Davis County, April 28, 1854. He moved with his parents to American Fork, and in 1862 came to Wasatch County.

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In March of 1873 he married Mary Elvira Gallagher in the Salt Lake Endowment House. They were the parents of nine children: John Gallagher, who died in childhood; Amelia Brittingham, who married William Witt; Eunice Sweet, who married Orson Thomas Hicken; Eliza, who married Archibald Sellers; Mary Elvira, who died in infancy; Pearl, who married George Buckley; Joseph Stacy, who married Zina Hill; Sarah Esther, who married Glen Thurman, and Heber, who married Effie Morton. Mary Elvira died in 1890.

On December 14, 1895, John married Emily A. Bond in the Salt Lake Temple. They were the parents of six children, Marella Irene, who married George B. Stanley; Leah, who married Lee Kay; Paul Bond; Thomas Calvin; Ellen, who married Leland Stanford Patten, and Edith Mary* Murdock.

John H. was an active member of the Church all his life, filling a colonizing mission to St. Johns, Arizona, from 1884 to 1890, and a mission to the Southern States in 1907 and 1908. He served on the High Council of Wasatch Stake and was president of the St. Johns Irrigation Co. and the Wasatch Irrigation Co. He also was president of the High Priests' Quorum and was active in the Sunday School. He served as a member of the Heber City Council, the Charleston School Board and was prominent in the Democratic party. He also had been a member of the brass band and owned the Heber Confectionery. He was marshal for several years. In later life he moved to Provo, where he lived until his death. At 80 he took up the hobby of painting and received several blue ribbons at county fairs.

John H. Murdock son of Joseph Stacy & Elvira Murdock

Artist



VERNON AND ELIZABETH MURDOCK

Vernon was born in Heber City, Utah to Thomas C. and Millie Lindsay Murdock on September 9, 1928. He lived most of his early years in the Murdock home at 457 East 600 South with two older sisters, Hope and Doris, and a younger sister, Kathleen, and brothers, Thomas J. and Lee. His father was a steel worker and miner most of his life. His mother, Millie, worked for many years at the old Heber Exchange in the dry goods and ready-to-wear department. They were a family that worked hard, loved the out-of-doors.

After Vernon attended Wasatch County schools, he served a three year mission in Argentina. He then became a student at BYU, graduating with a B.F.A. degree in 1954. At the "Y" he was a letterman in wrestling. In 1955 he entered the United States Air Force

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as a jet pilot, obtaining his honorable discharge in 1958 with the rank of Captain.

In 1958 he met and married Elizabeth Vance, then a nurse at the B.Y.U. Health Center. Vernon taught school in Salt Lake for two years before coming to Wasatch County High School to continue his teaching career for several more years. Before their children came along, Vernon and Elizabeth traveled a lot, spending one full summer touring and studying in Europe.

Vernon is a self-employed artist illustrator. For several years he filled a satisfying role as an illustrator of 16 volumes of L.D.S. Church History and 10 volumes of Bible stories. In addition to many other pictures, he has painted a series of Wasatch County Historical paintings including one of the former old County Court House and the old Stake Tabernacle in the town square, the old, now demolished grist mill which occupied the corner of Center Street and Mill Road in earlier days, and one entitled "The Legend of Timpanogas." Vernon is now a teacher at Wasatch Middle School.

Vernon is a member of the Rotary Club, an international service organization.

Elizabeth Vance Murdock was born to Robert and Anna Farnsworth Vance in Madera, Chihuahua, Mexico, December 3, 1933. She spent her High School years in Mesa, Arizona. She graduated from the Good Samaritan School of Nursing. Elizabeth has worked as a registered nurse in the Heber Hospital and in doctor's offices and health center in Phoenix, Texas, California, Provo, Salt Lake and Mexico. Elizabeth is a member of the Wasatch County Board of Health and an Advisory Commission Member for Timpanogas Mental Health Center.

Elizabeth and Vernon are the parents of four children: Eric Vernon, married to Jaymae Stagg, Shaun Carlos, Amy, and Alisa.

With their family Vernon and Elizabeth continue to travel whenever possible. They have been to many states, back to New York for the Hill Cumorah Pageant, to Mexico to visit relatives numerous times and to Canada. In 1979 they made a memorable trip to Israel with Tom and Marva Watson.

In 1970 they bought the home built by Vernon's grandfather, Andrew Lindsay, at 489 East 600 South. Over the years they have added onto and remodeled the home and made it a lovely, special home for their family to enjoy.

Vernon's church positions include the following: Adult Gospel Doctrine class teacher for over 20 years, Second Counselor in the Bishopric with Doug Merkley, 5 years, Teacher of Project Temple classes for many years. (More than 17 families sealed in the temple through these classes), Elder's Quorum president 5 years, Seventie's president and ward mission leader. He helped to build the Third Ward Chapel, working full time during construction.

Elizabeth's church positions include the following: Stake Mission, Provo, 1957, Y.W.M.I.A. president, Third Ward 1960-63, Primary President, worker in Scouting Program 11 years, Work Director and Relief Society Teacher, Ward music director, Heber Stake Blazer leader, teacher of numerous nursing classes in stake and ward, Primary Teacher.